<u>REMARKS</u>

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 18, 2005. Claims 1, 3 to 6, 8 to 11, 13 to 15, 17, 19 and 21 to 24 are in the application, with new Claims 22 to 24 having been added. Claims 1, 6 and 11 have been amended and are the independent claims herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 11 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,076,106 (Hamner), Claims 3, 8 and 13 were rejected under § 103(a) over Hamner in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,232,973 (Dow), and Claims 5, 10, 15, 17, 19 and 21 were rejected under § 103(a) over Hamner. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns displaying updated configuration information of a network device next to a displayed icon of the device. According to the invention, a search is performed to acquire device information concerning image processing devices on the network, and information concerning available image processing devices is recorded based on the acquired device information. Based on the recorded information, it is recognized whether or not settings information of the devices has been updated, and if so, the updated settings information is displayed in proximity to an icon selected by a user from among displayed icons. Thus, the user can be kept up to date with any changes in the device setting since a recognition if performed to determine whether or not the information has been updated.

With specific reference to the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is a network terminal apparatus, comprising management means for managing settings information concerning a plurality of image processing devices which implement an image

processing function, search means for acquiring, via a network, device information

concerning image processing devices connected to the network, recording means for

recording information concerning available image processing devices, based on the device

information acquired by said search means, icon display means for displaying icons each

corresponding to each image processing function, recognition means for recognizing

whether or not the settings information has been updated, based on the information

recorded by said recording means, and settings information display means for displaying

updated settings information in proximity to a selected icon in a case where the settings

information has been updated in regard to an image processing function corresponding to

an icon selected by a user from among the displayed icons.

Amended independent Claims 6 and 11 are method and computer medium

claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to

disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1, 6 and 11, and in particular is not seen to

disclose or to suggest at least the feature of recording information concerning image

processing devices, based on device information acquired from the devices, recognizing

whether or not settings information of the devices has been updated, based on the recorded

information, and displaying updated settings information in proximity to a selected icon in

a case where the settings information has been updated in regard to an image processing

function corresponding to an icon selected by a user from among displayed icons.

Hamner is merely seen to disclose that device information is acquired from

a devices and stored as a network map. The network map is displayed with tasks

performable being displayed as bitmap representations of the device. If a user selects a

bitmap of the device, the tasks performable by that device are displayed, and a user can

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initiate a task by selecting the task. However, Hamner is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of recognizing whether or not settings information of the devices has been updated, based on the recorded information, and displaying updated settings information in proximity to a selected icon in a case where the settings information has been updated in regard to an image processing function corresponding to an icon selected by a user from among displayed icons. Accordingly, Claims 1, 6 and 11 are not believed to be anticipated by Hamner.

Dow is not seen to add anything to overcome the deficiencies of Hamner. In this regard, Dow is merely seen to disclose a device for capturing and transmitting images to other devices. However, Dow, like Hamner, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of recognizing whether or not settings information of the devices has been updated, based on the recorded information, and displaying updated settings information in proximity to a selected icon in a case where the settings information has been updated in regard to an image processing function corresponding to an icon selected by a user from among displayed icons.

In view of the foregoing, amended independent Claims 1, 6 and 11, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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